

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 REDUCED SENSITIVITY SPIN VALVE HEAD FOR
 MAGNETIC TAPE APPLICATIONS

Apparatus and methods for reducing the sensitivity
10 of spin valve sensor read heads for magnetic tape
applications are provided. The apparatus and methods
compromise the large output gain derived from using state
of the art spin valve sensors in order to reduce the flux
capture and thus, the signal distortion in the spin valve
15 sensor. In order to provide a reduced sensitivity spin
valve sensor, one or more of the basic sensitivity of the
spin valve, the flux carrying capability of the free
layer, and the flux injection efficiency of the spin
valve head structure are modified to reduce the flux
20 capture by the sensing layer.

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